

Purpose:

Informally phone several water districts which have entitlements for lower Colorado River water to ask the following questions:

- Does the district impose annual fees (on a per-acre or other basis) on landowners who do not take delivery of canal (mainstream) water?
- Should there be plots of land that are outside of the district's service area or boundary, would the district impose any costs to these individual landowners to be included into the district (even if these landowners would not require delivery of canal mainstream Colorado River water)?
  - (If asked: these lands are already being supplied by well water and would not require connection to canal system.)

The differences between residential & agricultural use are not relevant to this inquiry.

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Bard Water District  
Winterhaven, CA                      760-572-0704

04-17-07    10:25 AM              Darla

- \$63.50 per acre annual fee
  - [5 af regular soil... 8 af sandy soil]
  - "No room to add land-owners"
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Big Bend Water District  
Laughlin, NV                      702-298-3113

04-17-07    10:37 AM              Connie

- "Only two customers have their own wells and septic system... since they do not receive canal water, they do not pay fee"
- One of these two customers does order canal water from time to time...
- No delivery of canal water = no fees
- No additional charge for inclusion into district

05-31-07    12:30 PM              Rates pulled from website  
(<http://bbwd.cleanwaterteam.com/CustomerService/tabid/53/Default.aspx#rates>)

- \$2.70 per 1000 gallons up to conservation limit
  - (single family home = 15,000 gallons)
- \$3.38 per 1000 gallons in excess of the conservation limit
- SFR = \$45.00 activation fee and \$7.10 monthly service charge

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Bullhead City, AZ                      928-763-9400

04-17-07    1:59 PM                      Janice Paul                      928-763-0123

- No annual fee.
- No canal water is delivered: Groundwater pumped is Colorado River water
- If over 20 gallons per minute is pumped, regardless of whether private well or utility service, an "Impost Fee" is charged for the use of Colorado River water.
- Impost Fee = \$0.1398 per 1000 gallons of water
- No agricultural lands
- No additional charge for inclusion into district

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Cibola Valley Irrigation and Drainage District      Office hours: MTW 9-1PM  
Cibola, AZ                      928-857-3316

04-30-07    11:15 AM                      Cynthia

Only charge for water-toll, actual delivery... report use of domestic well water, but no charge... maybe an assessment in cases of "big projects" and the applied fees vary in each case...

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Imperial Irrigation District  
Imperial, CA                      760-339-9477

04-17-07    11:30 AM                      Cindy

- Referred me to website... water rates posted only refer to delivery of water
- Sent e-mail to cebutler@iid.com (04-19-07 @ 12:55 PM)
- Second e-mail sent 04-25-07

E-mail response received from Jeff Garber, IID General Counsel.  
The following is directly quoted:

- Landowners who own lands within the IID water service territory must pay an annual fee for the right to receive water ("Water Availability Charge"). In addition, landowners (or approved tenants) are required to pay for any water delivered to them by IID.
- Landowners who desire to have their lands (located outside the District but within the All American Canal service area boundaries) included within the District must submit a petition ("Petition for Inclusion") to IID. If the lands are included, the landowner may have to pay, as a condition for inclusion, the cost of constructing necessary water delivery facilities (canals, etc.) and drainage facilities. Also, once included, the landowner would pay the annual Water Availability Charge and delivery fees as described above.

04-30-07 10:40 AM Message left for Jeff Garber (follow up on above)

05-30-07 Water Rate schedules pulled from website.

Water Availability Charge is applied as follows:

- Stand-by Service (Water Availability Charge) is \$4.00 per gross acre (and every fraction thereof) regardless of whether water is delivered or not.
- The Water Availability Charge is reduced by 5% when in consideration of rights-of-way.
- (Therefore the net per acre charge = \$3.80)
- The Water Availability Charge is not applied to parcels less than 5.0 acres.
- The Water Availability Charge is not applied to parcels not subject to assessment.

Also, landowners who successfully petition for inclusion into IID are not responsible to pay fees in addition to the construction costs for water delivery facilities. Once included, the lands are subject to the Water Availability Charge (given the above considerations).

If I understand correctly: a parcel of land less than 5.0 acres that is within IID service area, utilizes its own well, and does not require construction of water delivery facilities would not be subject to any assessment due to IID. Is this correct?

05-31-07 12:00 PM E-mail sent to Jeff Garber to confirm the above

06-04-07 4:37PM Direct quote from E-mail received from Jeff Garber:

A landowner within IID who owns more than five acres must pay an annual Water Availability Charge of \$4.00 for each gross acre, or fraction thereof, whether water is actually used or not less a minimum allowance for any and all right-of-way

considerations equaling five percent or a net per acre charge of \$3.80. Lands within IID not subject to assessment (such as city, county, state and federal lands) are not obligated to pay a Water Availability Charge.

Once lands are included within IID, a landowner would pay the annual Water Availability Charge, and the landowner (or his/her tenants) would pay for any water delivered to them by IID.

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Mohave Valley Irrigation and Drainage District  
Mohave, AZ 928-768-3325

04-17-07 11:40 AM Teresa Currie (Manager)

- Both agricultural and residential landowners charged ~\$1.35 tax per acre (Or portion thereof) on an annual basis. (to recover operating costs)
- Agricultural land is tax exempt... possibly a county directive.
- Developers of subdivisions pay \$900.00 per lot, regardless of size (for 100-year allocation).
- Commercial/Industrial development: pay \$1,531.00 per acre-foot allocated (or portion thereof). This figure may change.
- District pays \$0.25 per acre-foot to Reclamation, but this never charged to farmers. [\$0.25/af charged by Reclamation for diversion of domestic water per af below Hoover Dam.]
- Not aware of any start-up fee... some lands have been excluded, included, and then excluded again, but were only charged the standard tax fee of ~\$1.35 per acre... "doubtful that the Board would opt to do that"

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Needles, City of  
Needles, AZ 760-326-2113

04-20-07 11:30 AM Dave Brownlee (extension 323)

- Well users within service area required to sign up to LCWSP
- Well users outside of service area also required to sign up to LCWSP
- Both current and standby users must be in LCWSP
- Needles manages, in reference to LCWSP,
  - Imperial, Riverside, & San Bernardino counties
- Department of Environmental Health regulates well drilling and calls Dave Brownlee's office to confirm water rights
  - Well applicants without water rights are referred to Dave Brownlee

- LCWSP Application fee (one time charge) =
    - \$386 (plus change) this year... fee increases by 5.54% annually
    - + \$150 administrative fee
  - Nine months to one year from LCWSP application submission to approval
  - Metering not required for annual use less than 5 acre-feet
  - Annual fee billed in October for following year
    - \$49.15 per acre-foot
    - Includes 21.01 administrative fee
    - Includes pumping costs
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Unit B Irrigation and Drainage District  
Somerton, AZ 928-627-8891

04-19-07 2:45 PM Pat (Patrick L. Morgan, Manager)

- Contract Repayment Fee = \$8.68 per acre
    - Charged to all landowners within District
    - Method by which District repays Reclamation
  - Water delivery rates are as follows:
    - Agricultural Rate = \$13 per acre-foot
    - Co-Op Ranchette Rate (Ranchette ~ 2 acre parcel)
      - 2.51 + acres = \$24.16 per acre-foot (\$241.60 per acre)
      - 1.26 to 2.5 acres = \$28.84 per acre-foot (\$288.40 per acre)
      - Zero to 1.25 acres = \$30.68 per acre-foot (\$306.80 per acre)
    - Non-Co-Op Ranchette Rate
      - 2.51 + acres = \$13.00 per acre-foot (\$130.00 per acre)
      - 1.26 to 2.5 acres = \$15.50 per acre-foot (\$155.00 per acre)
      - Zero to 1.25 acres = \$16.50 per acre-foot (\$165.00 per acre)
  - YES. A charge would be applied for inclusion into district
    - Set by Board of Directors
    - Based on \$ spent to maintain district
    - And to pay back Reclamation
    - And accounting for time dedicated towards the inclusion process
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Wellton-Mohawk Irrigation and Drainage District  
Wellton, AZ 928-785-3351

04-17-07 2:15 PM Mildred

- No annual fee

- If there is no delivery of water (as in private well use) then there is no district charge (aside from power charges for pumping costs)
- Then again, if the land is irrigable, but farmer decides not to irrigate for whatever reason, there is still the 4 acre-foot minimum fee to be paid...
- Agricultural Water Delivery prices set as follows:
  - At set price: \$72 per irrigable acre entitled to minimum of 4 acre-feet
  - At supplemental price: 5 to 10 acre-feet = \$18.50 per acre-foot
  - At supplemental price: 11 to 12 acre-feet = \$21.20 per acre-foot
  - At supplemental price: 13 + acre-feet = \$22.30 per acre foot
- Domestic turnouts to water grass require permit
  - Cost of permit unknown
  - \$56.00 annual fee allows for 325,850 gallons of water (verify)
  - Only a few domestic lots pay this fee (in the oldest section of town, with option not to take in water...)
- No additional charge for inclusion into the district
- FYI: ~100 new homes near Coyote Wash: Glen Curtis Development. Co.

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Yuma County Water Users' Association  
Yuma, AZ 928-627-8824

04-25-07 09:25 AM Tami

- Landowners pay minimum of \$77 per acre annually (5 acre-feet)
  - \$15.40 per acre-foot per acre
- Irrigation water can be converted to city water for domestic use
  - \$5.83 per acre-foot per acre
- No additional costs for inclusion to Association
  - Once application has been submitted:
    - "Temporary Contract" is initiated
    - The same rate of \$15.40 per acre-foot per acre applies

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Yuma Irrigation District  
Yuma, AZ 928-726-1047

04-19-07 11:09 AM Jerry

- Landowners pay \$30 per acre annually
  - For annual allotment of five acre-feet per acre
  - Whether the water is delivered or not

- There is an \$11 charge per additional acre –foot delivered
  - No additional charge for inclusion into the district
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Yuma Mesa Irrigation and Drainage District  
Yuma, AZ 928-726-4353

04-19-07 11:40 AM Star

- Annual assessment of \$60 per acre
  - For annual allowance of nine acre-feet per acre
  - Whether water is delivered or not
  - Failure to pay within 18 months initiates a lien on the property by the district
  - Year runs January to December
  - Billed biannually: due Oct 31<sup>st</sup> and due April 30<sup>th</sup>
- Additional water over the nine acre-feet per acre
  - 1<sup>st</sup> time over limit = \$6.00 x acreage x 1.5
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> time over limit = \$9.35 x acreage x 1.5
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> time over limit = \$14.10 x acreage x 1.5
  - 4<sup>th</sup> time over limit = \$25.00 x acreage x 1.5
- Uncertain as to inclusion fees and surprised that anyone would want to be included into the District if there was no need for water delivery... she will call back after clarification

Continuation of above:

04-20-07 1:45 PM Star

Star sent a fax that repeats what is explained above ... if other info is needed, I have been instructed to call David Malone